



Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group
Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2008

Summary

Epidemiology Work Group Members in Attendance (13):

Phillip Stevenson (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission)
David Choate, proxy for Charles Katz (Arizona State University)
Wendy Wolfersteig (Arizona State University)
James Cunningham (University of Arizona)—via conference call
Katherine Guffey (Arizona Department of Economic Security)—via conference call
Michael Dolny (Arizona Department of Corrections)—via conference call
Michelle Anderson (Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections)
Richard Porter (Arizona Department of Health Services)
Steve Gendler (Department of Public Safety)
Dennis Embry (PAXIS Institute)—via conference call
Jody Sekerak (Indian Health Services)—via conference call
Meena Shahi (Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board, First Things First)—via conference call
Zeenat Mahal (Inter Tribal Council of Arizona)—via conference call

Epidemiology Work Group Members Absent (4)

Amy Stuart (Administrative Office of the Courts)
Catherine Osborn (Arizona Department of Education)
Gowri Shetty (Arizona Department of Health Services)
Wesley Kortuem (Arizona Department of Health Services)

Governor's Office Staff (1)

Jeanne Blackburn (GOCYF, DSAP)

Public (4):

Michelle Neitch (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission)
Joshua Brisbane (Intern, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission)
Emily Jenkins (Arizona Council for Human Service Providers)
Ric Wood (Pima Prevention Partnership)—via conference call



Call to Order was made by Phillip Stevenson at 1:03 p.m. after noting that a quorum was present.

Welcome and Introductions

- Phillip Stevenson asked the attendees and guests present to introduce themselves and their respective agency/group.

Announcements

- Michelle Neitch informed the group that the state AYS report will be published within the next two weeks and available on the ACJC website.

Cost-Benefit Analysis of Treatment vs. Incarceration: Next Group Project?

- Emily Jenkins discussed a potential treatment vs. incarceration cost-benefit analysis project with the group members.
 - She would like to do a report similar to the Justice Policy Institute report that Jeanne Blackburn sent out to the group members prior to the meeting for their review.
 - She provided the group with the 2003 data that she has used, but needs updated data for this project and would like the group's assistance with obtaining the data for such an analysis.
 - Michelle Anderson informed the group members that the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is responsible for an annual report that uses a formula to calculate the cost savings/avoidance resulting from the mandated use of Drug Treatment and Education Funds (DTEF) to provide treatment services instead of incarceration for first-time drug offenders. This report would give Emily information that is close to what she is looking to use for this project but does not include data on juveniles. Though this is supposed to be an annual report, the last DTEF report that Michelle is aware of was written in 2005.
 - James Cunningham could provide a report/literature on the benefits of earlier treatment for juvenile-justice involved border and non-border youth.
 - Phillip Stevenson noted that there are two issues that need to be addressed:
 - The first is determining whether any DTEF reports have been written since 2005.
 - The second is whether the formula used to determine cost savings used with adult data can be used in a similar fashion to determine the cost savings of youth treatment.
 - The next steps for this project will be:
 - Emily Jenkins and Jeanne Blackburn will attempt to locate the most recent DTEF report.
 - Emily and Jeanne will meet to determine how closely the report addresses Emily's needs for adult data.
 - Jeanne and Emily will determine which elements of juvenile data are needed, which Jeanne will bring back to the group for their input.



Update on ASAP

- Phillip Stevenson reminded the group that the new strategic focus areas discussed at the November 13, 2008 ASAP meeting were:
 - *Underage Drinking*;
 - *Prescription Drug Abuse*;
 - *Drug-Endangered Children*;
 - and *Media Campaigns*
- He also informed the group that Dean Wright of the Arizona Board of Pharmacy presented at the ASAP meeting on the state's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) that was developed as a result of HB 2136. The PDMP aims to identify doctor shoppers and refer them to treatment and provide this information to the patients' prescribers who may not be aware of this activity.
 - Data collection began in October 2008.
- Phil will present on underage drinking at the January 2009 ASAP meeting using logistic regression modeling and the risk and protective factors associated with underage drinking.

2008 Snapshot of Arizona: Epi Deliverable

- Jeanne Blackburn informed the group that she is currently editing the section on alcohol to mirror the methamphetamine section in style and content:
 - The section will now include outcomes from the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SFP SIG) efforts in the state and any other efforts that have resulted in significant outcomes.
 - The Data Gaps section will indicate how the state has made efforts to work with tribal communities and other efforts that have addressed data gaps in the state.

2009 Chairmanship and Meeting Dates and Times

- The group discussed retaining Phillip Stevenson as Chair of the Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group to ensure continuity in the group's efforts.
 - Richard Porter moved to retain Phillip Stevenson as Chair with Meena Shahi seconding the motion.
- Meena Shahi asked whether a Vice-Chair position should/could be created and moved to make this a decision to be voted on by the group members.
 - Wendy Wolfersteig seconded the motion.
- The group members discussed a nomination for the newly-created Vice-Chair position.
 - Richard Porter moved to nominate Wendy Wolfersteig to the position.
 - Jody Sekerak seconded the motion.
 - There were no dissenters.
- The group elected to continue meeting on the third Wednesday from 1:00 – 3:00 on a monthly basis at the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission or at ASU-Downtown campus depending upon the availability of a conference line at either location.



2009 Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile: A Discussion of Document Organization

- Jeanne Blackburn provided the group members with a copy of the Table of Contents from the 2007 Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile.
 - The group members provided feedback on changes to the document's organization and chapters to be included in the 2009 Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile.

Call to Public

- There were members of the public present. However, there were no comments from the guests in attendance.

Adjourn at 2:59 p.m. with a reminder on the agenda that the next meeting will be held on January 21, 2009.

Minutes submitted by Jeanne Blackburn (GOCYF, DSAP).